

U. S. Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
and
U. S. Department of Commerce
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
and
Agricultural Extension Service
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 1-26-54 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 1-25-54

WEATHER The week was cold and dry. Temperatures averaged about 3° below normal in the extreme west to over 10° below in the east. A little light snow fell at most stations, but there was no precipitation of consequence. Several days were rather windy.

CROPS Most of the reports on wheat are still favorable. However, an increasing number indicate possible damage from cold air penetrating the loose, dry soil. There has been no appreciable moisture since December 3, and since top soil is loose and open, cold air penetrates down to the crown and roots which is unfavorable. High winds of the past week caused some blowing and dust storms.

Snow covering is needed to moisten the top soil and protect the wheat from possible damage. Most of the unfavorable comments on the wheat condition come from the Panhandle and northern portion with a few unfavorable reports from the southwest.

Carlot shipments of potatoes approximated 1,500 cars up to last weekend or slightly less than half the number shipped to the same date a year ago. Shipments are picking up slightly but the price is still very low, ranging from 30¢ to 60¢ to the grower for bin-run potatoes.

Samples of soil for testing are still being gathered. There is an increasing interest in commercial fertilizer. Records of the National Fertilizer Association show an increase from 2,400 tons in 1942 to 47,000 tons in 1950. By 1952 the consumption of commercial fertilizer doubled, reaching 101,000 tons. Despite the dry weather last year, application of nitrogen fertilizer increased the yields.

LIVESTOCK Grain feed supplies are ample in most of the counties with some of the counties reporting a surplus. January farm stocks of corn are down 18% from a year ago and 10% below the 10-year average.

Periods of low temperatures during the past two weeks have increased the consumption of hay, but some surplus is reported from the northern portion of the State with some hay being shipped into the southern portion. Continued cold weather may reduce the surplus, but with normal weather there should still be a considerable surplus in the State. January hay stocks are slightly below the stocks a year ago.

Some counties report considerable Newcastle disease in poultry. A number of counties are interested in testing cattle for Brucellosis.

Cattle feeders are pleased with the increased price offered for fat cattle last week. Some feeders are taking advantage by marketing earlier than intended. There are a few reports of more cattle going into feed lots.

Many report an increasing interest in production of pigs. Bred sows have been selling high, ranging from \$80 to \$100 per head.

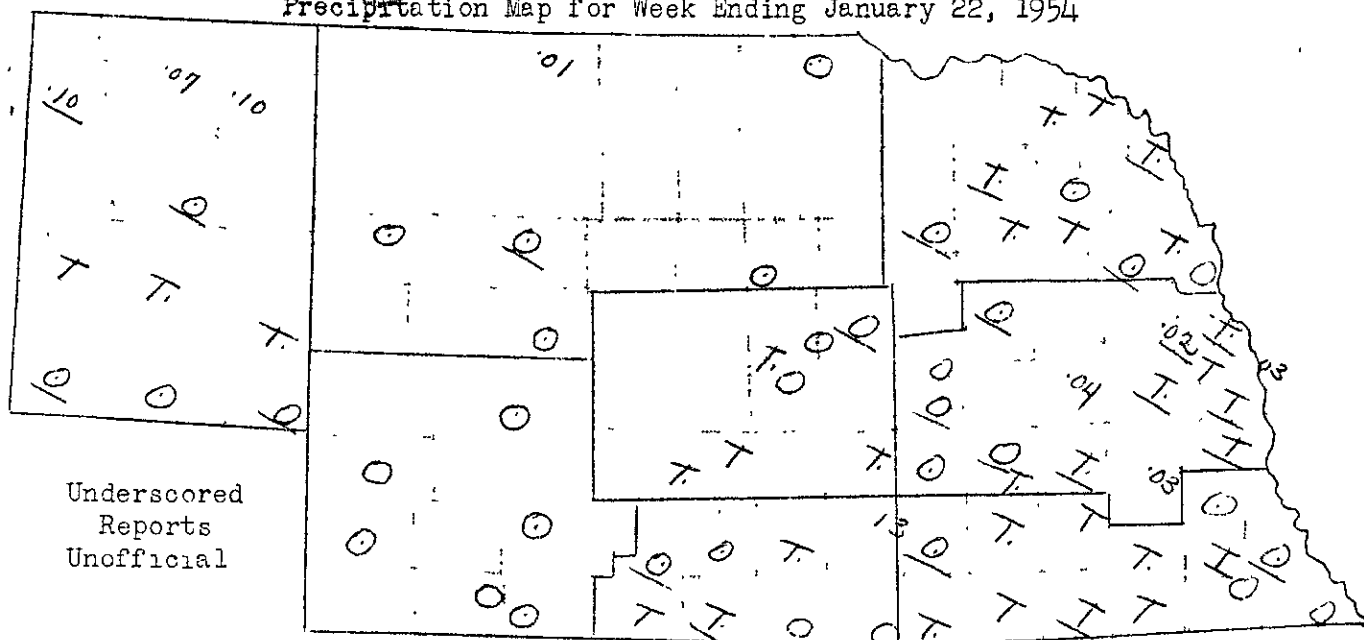
Growers intend to produce the same number of turkeys as produced last year. Indications point to a larger number of light breed turkeys.

WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING JANUARY 25, 1954

| <u>Eastern Division</u> | | <u>Central Division</u> | | <u>Western Division</u> | |
|-------------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| Grand Island | 0 | Burwell | 0 | Chadron | .07 |
| Lincoln | .03 | Lexington | 0 | Imperial | 0 |
| Norfolk | 0 | North Platte | 0 | Scottsbluff | 0 |
| Omaha | .03 | Valentine | .01 | Sidney | 0 |
| Sioux City | .02 | | | | |

1250
1-26-54

Precipitation Map for Week Ending January 22, 1954



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (for 24 hours ending in a.m.)

| | | January | | 19th | | 20th | | 21st | | 22nd | | 23rd | | 24th | | 25th | |
|------|--------------|---------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|
| | | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min | Max | Min |
| NW | Chadron | 45 | -- | 31 | -13 | 0 | -14 | 15 | -3 | 56 | 38 | -- | -2 | 23 | -1 | | |
| | Scottsbluff | 48 | 16 | 43 | -4 | 4 | -2 | 41 | 5 | 61 | 32 | -- | 5 | 29 | 13 | | |
| | Sidney | 36 | 14 | 47 | -- | 5 | 1 | 35 | 16 | 56 | 28 | -- | 5 | 29 | 8 | | |
| N-C | Burwell | 22 | 10 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| | Valentine | 33 | 25 | 30 | -12 | -4 | -15 | 20 | 4 | 52 | 26 | 59 | -5 | 4 | -2 | | |
| NE | Norfolk | 19 | 6 | 27 | -2 | 10 | -17 | 7 | -8 | 28 | 17 | 41 | 0 | 8 | -3 | | |
| | Sioux City | 19 | 3 | 27 | 1 | 11 | -16 | 1 | -9 | -- | -- | 41 | 3 | 13 | 1 | | |
| CEN. | Grand Island | 22 | 9 | 29 | -1 | 12 | -12 | 9 | -2 | 31 | 15 | 41 | 3 | 18 | 1 | | |
| | Lexington | 27 | 9 | 33 | 0 | 9 | -7 | 17 | 3 | 37 | 15 | -- | 4 | 15 | 3 | | |
| E-C | Lincoln | 24 | 11 | 36 | 4 | 5 | -12 | 7 | -4 | 31 | 19 | 45 | 5 | 15 | 5 | | |
| | Omaha | 25 | 8 | 35 | 5 | 24 | -13 | 6 | -6 | 27 | 19 | 45 | 8 | 30 | 4 | | |
| SW | Imperial | 35 | 15 | 43 | 0 | 9 | -3 | 24 | 5 | 45 | 15 | -- | 5 | 22 | 5 | | |
| | North Platte | 34 | 11 | -- | -1 | 8 | -4 | -- | -- | 42 | 16 | 55 | 4 | 16 | 4 | | |

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